

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 186926
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 SIG-03
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00
ARA-10 /107 R

DRAFTED BY IO/ML:MIACOBS:SC

APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN

IO/ML:PWKRIEBEL

IO/UNP:TNILES

ARA/RPP:SQUIGG

EUR/EE:DJOHNSON

-----042399 250031Z /14

O R 242353Z JUL 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 186926

FOR AMBASSADOR AND GRAHAM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PORG

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: PUERTO RICO AT THE
NON-ALIGNED FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING

1. A PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT TO THE PEOPLE OF
PUERTO RICO, TO BE ISSUED JULY 25, RE-EMPHASIZES THE
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ADMINISTRATION'S COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-
DETERMINATION FOR PUERTO RICO AND TO SUPPORT WITH
THE CONGRESS WHATEVER POLITICAL STATUS THE PEOPLE
OF PUERTO RICO WISH -- STATEHOOD, INDEPENDENCE, COMMON-
WEALTH OR MUTUALLY-AGREED MODIFICATIONS THEREOF. AS
SUCH, IT SHOULD BE HELPFUL TO US AT THE FOREIGN
MINISTERS MEETING IN IMPROVING THE ATMOSPHERE

OF THE PUERTO RICAN DEBATE AND, PERHAPS, INCREASING
THE NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS TO THE TRADITIONAL
NON-ALIGNED LANGUAGE ON PUERTO RICO. REALISTICALLY,
WE WOULD NOT EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO CHANGE THE
LANGUAGE ITSELF.

2. DEPARTMENT SUGGESTS THAT THE AMBASSADOR AND
USUN LIAISON OFFICER GRAHAM DISCUSS THE TEXT
WITH THE YUGOSLAVS, INDIANS AND
OTHERS THEY BELIEVE TO BE SYMPATHETIC (INCLUDING

THOSE WHO LODGED RESERVATIONS AT HAVANA: BOTSWANA,
INDONESIA, ZAIRE AND LIBERIA), DRAWING ON THE
TALKING POINTS WHICH EMBASSY ALREADY HAS, AS
DEEMED APPROPRIATE.

3. TEXT WHICH YOU MAY USE,
IS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE
TO THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO:

TODAY MARKS PUERTO RICO'S EIGHTIETH YEAR UNDER
THE AMERICAN FLAG, AND THE TWENTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE FOUNDING OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO,
A FORM OF GOVERNMENT FREELY AND DEMOCRATICALLY
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ADOPTED BY THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO. SINCE 1898
AND AS AMERICAN CITIZENS SINCE 1917, YOU HAVE MADE
A RICH CONTRIBUTION TO THE LIFE OF THE UNITED
STATES, WHILE PRESERVING YOUR OWN UNIQUE CULTURE
AND TRADITIONS WITHIN THE BROADER COMMUNITY.

AS YOU COMMEMORATE THIS ANNIVERSARY, I WOULD LIKE
TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE UNITED STATES REMAINS FULLY
COMMITTED TO THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION
FOR THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO. PRESIDENT
EISENHOWER MADE THAT COMMITMENT IN 1953, AND
THIS HAS BEEN THE POSITION OF ALL U.S. ADMINISTRATIONS
SINCE THAT TIME. WE CONTINUE TO REGARD IT AS THE
FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE IN DECIDING PUERTO RICO'S
FUTURE.

MY ADMINISTRATION WILL RESPECT THE WISHES OF THE
PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO AND YOUR RIGHT TO SELF-
DETERMINATION. WHATEVER DECISION THE PEOPLE OF
PUERTO RICO MAY WISH TO TAKE -- STATEHOOD,
INDEPENDENCE, COMMONWEALTH STATUS OR MUTUALLY-
AGREED MODIFICATIONS IN THAT STATUS -- IT WILL

BE YOURS, REACHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR OWN
TRADITIONS, DEMOCRATICALLY AND PEACEFULLY.

GOVERNOR ROMERO BARCELO HAS CALLED FOR A
REFERENDUM AFTER THE 1980 ELECTIONS IN PUERTO RICO
TO DECIDE PUERTO RICO'S FUTURE STATUS. SHOULD
THE GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DECIDE TO HOLD A
REFERENDUM, I WILL SUPPORT, AND URGE THE CONGRESS
TO SUPPORT, WHATEVER DECISION THE PEOPLE OF
PUERTO RICO REACH.

THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES ARE PROUD OF OUR
CULTURAL AND POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS WITH
PUERTO RICO OVER THE LAST 80 YEARS. WE KNOW THAT
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WE CAN BEST HONOR OUR FRIENDSHIP, AND OUR OWN
DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES, BY RESPECTING YOUR FREE
CHOICE ABOUT YOUR OWN FUTURE.

END QUOTE.

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PAGE 01 STATE 186926
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /015 R

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DRAFTED BY:IO/ML:PWKRIEBEL
APPROVED BY:IO/SA:EMICHAL
-----112788 280325Z /66

R 272300Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 186926

FOR AMBASSADOR LEONARD

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 186926 ACTION BELGRADE
INFO GABORONE JAKARTA KINSHASA MONROVIA NEW DELHI USUN NY
JUL 24. ALSO REPEATED INFO PORT OF SPAIN TEL AVIV JUL 26.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 186926

FOR AMBASSADOR AND GRAHAM

E.O. 11652: GDS

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END QUOTE.

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VANCE

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1903493
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PORG, RQ
To: BELGRADE
Type: TE
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